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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Bilateral nuclear arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing the fundamental changes that have taken place with respect to international security, which have permitted agreements on deep reductions in the nuclear armaments of the States possessing the largest inventories of such weapons,

Mindful that it is the responsibility and the obligation of all States to contribute to the process of the relaxation of international tension and to the strengthening of international peace and security and, in this connection, to adopt and implement measures toward the attainment of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Appreciating a number of positive developments in the field of nuclear disarmament, in particular the signing of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of

Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles,[1] and the treaties on the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms,

Appreciating also the indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[2] and acknowledging the importance of the determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons, and by all States of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Welcoming the steps that have already been taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America to begin the process of reducing the number of nuclear weapons and removing such weapons from a deployed status, and bilateral agreements on de-targeting strategic nuclear missiles,

Noting the new climate of relations between the States of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, which permits them to intensify their cooperative efforts to ensure the safety, security and environmentally sound destruction of nuclear weapons,

Recalling the Moscow Summit Declaration on Nuclear Safety and Security, adopted at the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996,[3]

Urging early action to complete the ratification of the Treaty on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms[4] and further intensification of efforts to accelerate the implementation of agreements and unilateral decisions relating to nuclear arms reduction,

Appreciating the joint statement of 10 May 1995 by the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, as well as their joint statements on future reductions in nuclear forces and outlining the elements of an agreement for higher-velocity theatre missile defence systems, both of 21 March 1997,

Welcoming the significant reductions made by other nuclear-weapon States, and encouraging all nuclear-weapon States to consider appropriate measures relating to nuclear disarmament,

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[1] The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 12: 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.IX.2), appendix VII.

[2] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[3] A/51/131, annex I.

[4] The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 18: 1993 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.IX.1), appendix II.

1. Welcomes the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,[5] signed in Moscow on 31 July 1991 by the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, including the Protocol to that Treaty signed at Lisbon on 23 May 1992 by the parties thereto, and the exchange of documents of ratification between the United States of America, Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine on 5 December 1994 at Budapest;

2. Also welcomes the signing of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms in Moscow on 3 January 1993,[4] and urges the parties to take the steps necessary to bring that Treaty into force at the earliest possible date;

3. Further welcomes the joint statement issued at Helsinki on 21 March 1997, in which the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris N. Yeltsin, and the President of the United States of America, Mr. William J. Clinton, reached an understanding that after the entry into force of the Treaty on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, their two countries would immediately commence negotiations on a third agreement, which would include the establishment, by 31 December 2007, of lower aggregate levels of 2,000 to 2,500 strategic nuclear warheads, take measures relating to the transparency of inventories of strategic nuclear warheads and destruction of strategic nuclear warheads, and carry out other actions to promote the irreversibility of these deep reductions;

4. Notes with satisfaction the Protocol to the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, the Joint Agreed Statement and the Letters on Early Deactivation signed by the Russian Federation and the United States of America in New York on 26 September 1997, which are intended to promote the further process of still deeper reductions and limitations of strategic offensive arms;

5. Welcomes the signing on 26 September 1997 by the United States of America, Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine of a number of significant agreements that contribute to ensuring the viability of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems;

6. Expresses its satisfaction at the entry into force and ongoing implementation of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, as well as the advice and consent of the Senate of the United States of America to the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, and expresses its hope that it will soon be possible for the Russian Federation to take corresponding steps to ratify the latter Treaty;

7. Also expresses its satisfaction at the continuing implementation of the Treaty between the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the Elimination of their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-

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[5] Ibid., vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

Range Missiles,[6] in particular at the completion by the parties of the destruction of all their declared missiles subject to elimination under the Treaty;

8. Welcomes the removal of all nuclear weapons from the territory of Kazakhstan as at 1 June 1995, from the territory of Ukraine as at 1 June 1996 and from the territory of Belarus as at 30 November 1996;

9. Encourages the United States of America, Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to continue their cooperative efforts aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and strategic offensive arms on the basis of existing agreements, and also welcomes the contributions that other States are making to such cooperation;

10. Welcomes the participation in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine as non-nuclear States, which thereby provided notable enhancement of the non-proliferation regime;

11. Urges the Russian Federation and the United States of America to commence negotiations on a third agreement immediately after the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms enters into force, thereby fulfilling the understandings they reached in the joint statement issued at Helsinki on 21 March 1997;

12. Encourages and supports the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their efforts to reduce their nuclear weapons and to continue to give those efforts the highest priority in order to contribute to the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons;

13. Invites the Russian Federation and the United States of America to keep other States Members of the United Nations duly informed of progress in their discussions and in the implementation of their strategic offensive arms agreements and unilateral decisions.

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[6] Ibid., vol. 12: 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.IX.2), appendix II.